

REMARKS

In response to the restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121 set forth in the March 19, 2004 Office Action, applicant elects, without traverse, for the continued prosecution of claims 1-17. Claims 18-26 have been cancelled without prejudice.

By virtue of this Amendment, claims 1-17 are the only claims pending. Applicant reserves the right to later file a divisional application directed to the non-elected, canceled claims.

An action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

Date: April 13, 2004

By: _____


Roger R. Wise
Registration No. 31,204
Attorney For Applicant(s)

725 South Figueroa Street, Suite 2800
Los Angeles, CA 90017-5406
Telephone: (213) 488-7100
Facsimile: (213) 629-1033